

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Huafang GAO et al.

Application No.: 10/562,803

Filed: (Int'l) July 18, 2003

For: DNA CHIP BASED GENETIC TYPING

Confirmation No.: 5370

Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: N. K. Bhat

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED  
EXAMINATION**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for the above-referenced application. A final Office Action was mailed on July 30, 2008 (hereinafter "the OA"), for which a response is due on October 30, 2008. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment for the above-referenced patent application. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.